

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-3 (canceled)

4. (original) A method of manufacturing a flexible hose (10) comprising
 - a) rotating a mandrel (30)
 - b) feeding a length of material (42) onto the mandrel (30) as the mandrel (30) rotates, to build a hose length (32) on the mandrel (30),
 - c) feeding a second length of material in the form of a reinforcing rod (12) onto the mandrel (30) as the mandrel (30) rotates to form a helical reinforcing rod (12) on the hose length (32), and
 - d) curing the hose length (32),the improvement being characterized by:
 - prior to feeding the reinforcing rod (12) onto the mandrel (30), modifying the hose length (32) to create non-adhesive regions (46).
5. (original) A method of manufacturing a hose (10) in accordance with claim 4, the method being further characterized by applying a third material (44) to the hose length (32) to create the non-adhesive regions (46).
6. (original) A method of manufacturing a hose (10) in accordance with claim 4, the method being further characterized by cutting the hose length (32) in the non-adhesive regions (46).
7. (original) A method of manufacturing a hose (10) in accordance with claim 4, the method being further characterized by varying the speed at which the mandrel (30) rotates as the reinforcing rod (12) is feed onto the mandrel (30) at the non-adhesive regions (46).
8. (original) A method of manufacturing a hose (10) in accordance with claim 4, the method being further characterized by reducing the winding tension of the reinforcing rod (12) as the reinforcing rod (12) is feed onto the mandrel (30) at the non-adhesive regions (46).

Claims 9-13 (canceled)